

Remarks

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 1, 8, 9, 17, and 19 have been amended. Claims 4, 12, and 22 have been cancelled. No claims have been added. Therefore, claims 1-3, 5-11, 13-21, and 23-32 are presented for examination.

Claim Objections

Claims 1-4 and 19-23 stand objected to because the word “retrieve” should be “retrieved”. Applicant submits that claims 1 and 19 have been amended to appear in better form for allowance. Specifically, the word “retrieve” has been changed to “retrieved.” Therefore, applicant respectfully requests the claims objections be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. §112 Rejection

Claims 8, 17 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 8 and 17 have been amended to appear in better form for allowance. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests the 35 U.S.C. §112 rejection be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. §102 & §103 Rejections

Claims 1-3 and 9-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Hikada et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,603,685). Claims 19-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hikada et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,603,685) in view of

Forbes (U.S. Patent No. 6,731,531). Applicant submits that claims 1, 9, and 19 have been amended to include subject matter that the Examiner has indicated as allowable.

Specifically, claim 1 includes the subject matter of allowable claim 4, claim 9 includes the subject matter of allowable claim 12, and claim 19 includes the subject matter of allowable claim 22. Therefore, claims 1-3, 9-11, and 19-21 are in proper form for allowance.

Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103 rejections be withdrawn.

Applicant submits that the amendments to claims 1, 9, and 19 are not in acquiescence to the Examiner's arguments that these claims are unpatentable over prior art references. Rather, the amendments to the claims are made to expedite allowance of the application.

Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections have been overcome and that the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests the rejections be withdrawn and the claims be allowed.

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

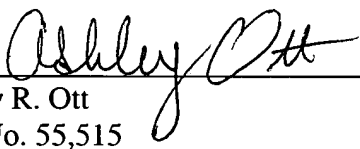
Applicant respectfully petitions for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension.

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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